

--32. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 31, further including heating the periphery of said opening in the vacuum for vacuum-sealing the opening.--

--33. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 31, said step of heating said sealing material comprising:

providing said housing containing said piezo-electric resonator element in a vacuum chamber; and

irradiating a high-temperature optical beam or laser beam from outside the vacuum chamber for heating and melting the sealing material.--

--34. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 31, said step of heating the sealing material comprising bringing a heating jig into contact with said sealing material and said periphery of the opening for heating and melting the sealing material.--

--35. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 31, further including heating a lid or a base of the housing in a vacuum at the step of heating said sealing material for vacuum-sealing the opening.--

--36. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 30, further comprising frequency-adjusting a part of said piezo-electric resonator element through the opening provided in the housing.--

--37. The method for manufacturing a piezo-electric resonator according to claim 36, further comprising vacuum-sealing said opening in a vacuum and forming an air-tight region of the housing in which said piezo-electric resonator element is provided and vacuum-sealed, the region being formed from a single layer of a base and a lid.--

B1
conc'd

REMARKS

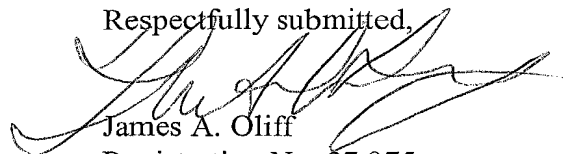
Claims 1-6, 8, 10-13, 15-22 and 30-37 are pending. By this Response, claims 23-29 are canceled, claims 30-37 are added and Group I, claims 1-6, 8, 10-13 and 15-22, are elected, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the method as recited in new claim 30 (and claims 31-37 dependent therefrom) recites a method of producing the piezo-electric resonator that is not restrictable from elected claim 8. In particular, new method claim 30 contains all the limitations of claim 8 and cannot be used to make other and different products from claim 8, and the piezo-electric resonator according to claim 8 cannot be made by another and materially different method from that recited in claim 30. Accordingly, claims 30-37 are not distinct inventions from claims 1-6, 8, 10-13 and 15-22 under MPEP §806.05(f).

Further, as required in MPEP §821.04, if Applicants elect claims directed to a product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which include all the limitations of an allowable product claim will be rejoined. In summary, the claims of the application are not properly restrictable, and even if they were, rejoinder will ultimately be required.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thu Anh Dang
Registration No. 41,544

JAO:TAD

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400